Disinvestment Commission in respect to various PSEs are in different stages of implementation/consideration.

Utilisation of Disinvestment Fund for PSUs

1117. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as appeared in a section of the Press, his Ministry have asked the Finance Ministry to plough back a portion of the fund so disinvested for the development of PSUs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Finance Ministry thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises has urged that proceeds from disinvestment should also be used for restructuring of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs). Government has announced that receipts from disinvestment will be used, *inter-alia,* for the restructuring of PSUs.

Competition faced by PSUs

1118. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many Public Sector Units are facing competition as a result of liberalisation of our economy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to strengthen these PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) Some of the Public Sector Units are facing competition in sectors like Steel, Power Generation Equipment, Chemicals and Petrochemicals, light engineering etc. Government have taken various steps to strengthen these PSUs which include professionalisation of Boards, enhanced delegation of power to PSU boards, formation of joint ventures, technology upgradation, modernization, capital restructuring, rationalisation of manpower etc.